

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



NEBRASKA'S HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

June 30, 2017

Senator John Barrasso, Chairman
Environment and Public Works Committee
Attn: matt_leggett@epw.senate.gov

Dear Senator Barrasso and members of the Committee:

It is with pleasure that I write in support of the nomination of Dr. Michael Dourson for the position of Assistant Administrator of the EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. Dr. Dourson is an outstanding, hard-working scientist with a distinguished record in toxicology and risk assessment. I have known Mike for more than twenty years and have had the privilege to work with him on a variety of committees and activities. I am a MD and PhD with a long career as a surgical pathologist and a basic scientist in the field of toxicology, risk assessment, and chemical carcinogenesis, with several areas of interest in common with Mike. He is not only extremely knowledgeable about the scientific and regulatory aspects of environmental chemicals, but is held in high esteem by other scientists in academia, industry, and government, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He is an individual who interacts well with other, is of the highest integrity and is highly respected for his scientific judgement.

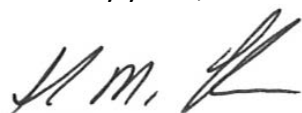
He has recently returned to the University of Cincinnati, where he had obtained his PhD in 1980. Since that time he has had various positions, but was the founder and leader of the Toxicology Excellence for Risk Assessment Center (TERA) for a little more than two decades, the predecessor organization to his current Risk Science Center at the University of Cincinnati. He has considerable administrative experience in leading a large number of individuals. This has also been evident in his leadership positions in numerous committees in national and international organizations, including as president of the American Board of Toxicology and president of the Toxicology Education Foundation. He has served on numerous committees, including the Science Advisory Boards of the EPA.

He has published extensively, with more than 150 publications on various aspects of risk assessment methods or chemical-specific analyses. He is widely recognized as a leader in the field of risk assessment, and these achievements have been rewarded with four bronze medals from the EPA, the Arnold J. Lehman Award from the Society of Toxicology, the Society's highest honor for scientific achievement in risk assessment, and the Achievement Award from the International Society of Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology. He is also a diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology, a fellow of the Academy of Toxicological Sciences, and a fellow of the Society for Risk Analysis.

Dr. Dourson is well suited for the position of Assistant Administrator at EPA given his long track record of bringing together individuals from academia, industry, and government regulatory

agencies to work together to address important issues regarding the environment and public health. His leadership skills, his ability to interact with individuals from all sectors, and his well-organized approach to addressing difficult issues will serve the agency and our country well. I strongly endorse Dr. Dourson's nomination for this position.

Sincerely yours,



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